



Master Plan Work Session –Vision and Guiding Principles

September 27, 2016

The following Vision and Guiding Principles are taken from the 2006 Beaver Island Master Plan. Are these still relevant today? What should be amended and what can be left as is?

VISION STATEMENT

Our Vision for Beaver Island in 2025 is to have a place that looks, functions, and feels remarkably like it does today; it will be a place:

- that reveres the natural environment and wishes to pass it along to future generations with little alteration,
- that has active, compact, and walkable harbor/township center districts with public services, shopping, connections to the outside world,
- that is quiet, serene hinterland where the evidence of settlement is not visible to the passerby,
- where people have the choice to walk, ride bikes, or drive if they choose;
- where buildings and manmade things seem to be part of and integral to the natural landscape rather than superseding it,
- that looks more rustic in keeping with the island's remote setting than polished like a subdivision,
- where people respect the views and needs of others and enjoy a high level of support, trust, and civility,
- where services are available to all age groups making this a great place for seniors and youth and everyone in between to live, recreate, learn and be cared for,
- where services and infrastructure are available, yet affordable, and public open space is both abundant and accessible;
- where islanders can work or start businesses that are appropriate for this island, and in keeping with its natural, historical, and cultural character, but do not stimulate rapid growth.

In spite of the welcome growth that is still to come, this is the place we want to share with our children and grandchildren in 2025.

BEAVER ISLAND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Guiding principles are statements that guide decision making relative to land use, transportation, and public improvements. They should be reviewed when examining development proposals, and administering or amending the zoning ordinance.

1. Foster "Appropriate" Island Businesses
2. Protect and Preserve the Environment
3. Provide Access To Public Lands To Foster Recreation Opportunity
4. Employ Smart Growth To Achieve Managed Growth
5. Provide Public Services And Infrastructure To Keep Pace With Growth
6. Proactively Provide Good Health and Public Services/Cultivate a Supportive Community Especially For Seniors
7. Educate Visitors About Acceptable Island Behavior
8. Develop Youth Activities
9. Protect water quality
10. Preserve the rural character and appearance from the roads